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DE RUEHKL #1048 3330742 ZNR UUUUU ZZH O 280742Z NOV 08 FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2035

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 001048

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FOR EAP/MTS AND L

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL CJAN KCRM KTIA MY

SUBJECT: MALAYSIA APPROVES EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS FOR

MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE TREATY

REF: STATE 122228 - INSTRUCTION

Malaysian Foreign Ministry Senior Under Secretary (Americas, EU) Zainuddin Yahya, in a meeting with Polcouns on November 28, confirmed that the Malaysian Government approves of the language of the draft text of the Protocol of Exchange for the U.S.-Malaysia Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (reftel). Zainuddin provided Polcouns with a copy of Malaysia's instrument of ratification for the treaty, which consists of a one-page attestation by Foreign Minister Rais Yatim dated November 7, 2008. (Note: Embassy has sent the copy via email to EAP/MTS/Richhart and L/Buchholz. End Note.) Zainuddin stated that he would immediately forward the original instrument of ratification to the Malaysian embassy in Washington so that the instruments could be exchanged in Washington as soon as possible, ideally sometime in December, and thus bring the treaty into force. KEITH